

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A device for fatigue warning in motor vehicles, having a driver sensor system (20) for detecting driver fatigue conditions and having a run-up alarm system which has an environment sensor system (12) and is designed to output a warning signal and/or perform a control action in the drive and/or brake system (14, 16) of the vehicle when the distance to a preceding vehicle drops below a warning distance,
wherein the run-up alarm system has a setting device (22) which is designed for modifying the warning distance as a function of the detected fatigue condition (E).
2. The device as recited in Claim 1,
wherein the warning distance is defined by a setpoint time gap (ΔT) which represents the time interval between the preceding vehicle and the host vehicle passing the same point on the roadway.
3. The device as recited in Claim 1 or 2,
wherein an operator's control (24), which allows the driver to manually set the warning distance or the setpoint time gap (ΔT), is assigned to the setting device (22), and the setting device (22) is designed for overriding the manual setting as a function of the detected fatigue condition of the driver.
4. The device as recited in Claim 3,
wherein the warning distance or the setpoint time gap (ΔT) can be set with the aid of the operator's control (24) only within certain limits, and the setting device (22) is designed for increasing the warning distance or the setpoint time gap (ΔT) beyond these limits if a fatigue condition is detected.

5. The device as recited in one of the preceding claims, wherein the driver sensor system (20) is designed for outputting a parameter (E) which quantitatively defines the fatigue condition, and the setting device (22) is designed for increasing the warning distance or the setpoint time gap (ΔT) according to a monotonically increasing function of the parameter (E).
6. The device as recited in one of the preceding claims, wherein the run-up alarm system is designed to be activated automatically when a fatigue condition is detected.